

Guidelines for Chemoprophylaxis and Antiviral Treatment

Persons with suspected novel H1N1 influenza who present with an uncomplicated febrile illness typically do not require treatment unless they are at higher risk for influenza complications.

Those that do need treatment/prophylaxis include:

- Children younger than 5 years old. The risk for severe complications from seasonal influenza is highest among children younger than 2 years old.
- Adults 65 years of age and older.
- Persons with the following conditions:
 - Chronic pulmonary (including asthma), cardiovascular (except hypertension), renal, hepatic, hematological (including sickle cell disease), neurologic, neuromuscular, or metabolic disorders (including diabetes mellitus);
 - Immunosuppression, including that caused by medications or by HIV;
 - Pregnant women (Zanamivir may be the drug of choice for prophylaxis if tolerated)
 - Persons younger than 19 years of age who are receiving long-term aspirin therapy;
 - Residents of nursing homes and other chronic-care facilities.
 - Hospitalized patients

Health care personnel, public health workers, or first responders who have had a recognized, unprotected close contact exposure to a person with novel (H1N1) influenza virus infection (confirmed, probable, or suspected) during that person's infectious period might be considered for prophylaxis.